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(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US):
POLIMERI EUROPA S.P.A. [IT/IT]; Via E. Fermi
4, I-72100 Brindisi (IT).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): NOTARI, Marcello
[IT/IT]; Via Castagnola 33, I-43100 Parma (IT). RIV-
ETTI, Franco [IT/IT]; Via Oggio 28, I-20139 Milan (IT).

(74) Agents: DE GREGORI, Antonella et al.; Ing. Barzano
& Zanardo Milano S.p.A., Via Borgonuovo, 10, I-20121
Milan (IT).

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(54) Title: USE OF DIALKYL CARBONATES AS SOLVENTS FOR EXPANDED POLYSTYRENE

(57) Abstract: The invention relates to the use of dialkyl carbonates as solvents for expanded polystyrene and to a new process for the recycling of expanded polystyrene. Said process comprises the volume reduction of expanded polystyrene by dissolution with a dialkyl carbonate, or a blend of dialkyl carbonates, the removal of the insoluble components by filtration, the selective precipitation of polystyrene with a non-solvent or a blend of non-solvents, the separation, drying and extrusion of the precipitated polystyrene. This process allows the recovery of pure polystyrene without altering its properties.